[11] **4,113,849** 

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Atwood

[54] RECOVERING SULFUR FROM GAS STREAMS CONTAINING HYDROGEN **SULFIDE** [75] Inventor: Gilbert Richard Atwood, Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. Union Carbide Corporation, New [73] Assignee: York, N.Y. [21] Appl. No.: 781,206 [22] Filed: Mar. 25, 1977 Int. Cl.<sup>2</sup> ...... C01B 17/00 U.S. Cl. ..... 423/574 R; 423/242 Field of Search ...... 423/574, 242, 539; 210/37 R; 55/73 References Cited [56] U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS 3,798,316 3/1974 Beavon ...... 423/574 Anderson ...... 423/242 3,879,521 4/1975 Bratzler et al. ..... 423/574 3,896,215 7/1975 3,911,093 10/1972 Sherif ...... 423/574 3,914,387 10/1975 Von Jordan ...... 423/242 6/1976 3,962,405 Annesser ...... 423/242

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## [57] ABSTRACT

Process for the recovery of sulfur from gas streams containing hydrogen sulfide comprising the steps of reacting a portion of the hydrogen sulfide with sulfur dioxide in a Claus reaction to form sulfur, removing the sulfur, incinerating the residual hydrogen sulfide in the resulting gas stream to sulfur dioxide, absorbing the sulfur dioxide in the incinerated gas stream in an aqueous absorbent solution, stripping the sulfur dioxide from the aqueous absorbent solution, recycling the stripped sulfur dioxide for reaction with succeeding portions of hydrogen sulfide in the incoming gas stream, re-contacting the stripped aqueous absorbent solution with succeeding portions of the incinerated gas stream to absorb additional sulfur dioxide, regenerating a portion of the aqueous absorbent solution to remove heat stable sulfur oxyanions therefrom by contacting said solution with an anion exchange resin and re-contacting the regenerated aqueous absorbent solution with said incinerated gas stream to absorb additional sulfur dioxide.

2 Claims, 2 Drawing Figures